



June 21, 2010, 12:00 p.m. CDT



(402) 471-7210 or (402) 471-7211

nema.jic@nebraska.gov

NEMA Daily Update JIC

All times are CDT, unless otherwise noted

(Lincoln, Neb.) – Flood response efforts continue across the state. The State Emergency Operation Center and the Joint Information Center are open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. over the weekend.

Flood Hotline

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency public information phone line, **(888) 656-6045**, is staffed from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily until further notice.

Road Closures

Call 511 or “know before you go” at www.511nebraska.org for up-to-the minute road condition information.

- **Highway 183** at Taylor closed due to bridge out
- **Highway 96** at Calamus reservoir closed due to culvert out
- **Highway 20** closed east of Inman closed due to bridge out
- **Highway L45B** closed at Ewing due to bridge out
- **Highway 32** closed out West Point
- **Highway 275** closed from Scribner to West Point due to water over the road

Recent Road Openings

Highway 81 open south of Norfolk.

Behavioral Health

When new assessment teams go out next week, behavioral health professionals will be part of those teams.

Fire Safety

The State Fire Marshal would like to remind citizens that if your power is out and you need to use a generator, be sure your generator has been tested and approved and is in proper working order. Try not to overload circuits. Also, continue to be cautious whenever there's a threat of lightening.

Shelters

Red Cross – Continuing today, Sunday, June 20, 2010, the two remaining Red Cross “shelters” will continue to be “comfort stations.” This means the two remaining shelters will not be open at night.

The comfort stations will be open during the day from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. The two shelters are: Norfolk City Auditorium at 127 N. 1st Street, Norfolk and the Elkhorn Middle School at 3200 N. 207th Plaza in Elkhorn. The comfort shelters will be offering meals, showers, snacks and cool down from 8:00 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Call 211 (a human services helpline) to find out what resources are available. Most of the state can access 211 now, or they can call (402) 444-6666.

Flood

Flood Watch continues for northeast Nebraska through Monday 7am. This covers portions of the Elkhorn R. basin.

A **FLASH FLOOD WATCH** is in effect for all of central and eastern Nebraska through 7AM Monday. The area is roughly along and east of a line from Valentine to Holdrege. Recent and expected rainfall may produce flash flood conditions along already swollen creeks and streams.

Flash Flood Watch is in effect for much of southeast Nebraska through Sunday 3pm.

Flood warnings continue for:

North Platte River near Henry, Mitchell, Lisco, Lewellen, North Platte

South Platte River at Roscoe

Platte River at Ashland

Elkhorn R. at West Point, Hooper, and Waterloo

For the Platte River at Ashland

For the Missouri River at Nebraska City, Brownville, and Rulo

Lewellen will get pushed to Moderate Flood stage on the North Platte River as a result of all the reservoir releases taking place up upstream.

The South Platte River forecast is running slightly higher than originally forecast. Roscoe is running right at or slightly above flood stage.

The upper reaches of the Elkhorn River continue to recede as forecast. If overnight rainfall amounts of an inch or so were to occur, we would see a slowing of the recession of the fall. However heavier amounts of 3 or more inches would cause additional rises to occur. New forecasts taking into account expected precipitation overnight will be in around noon for the rivers.

Weather

There is a MODERATE RISK for a severe weather outbreak across a good chunk of Nebraska late afternoon through the evening hours. The area of concern includes much of the northeast 2/3rds of the state. The area at highest risk for tornadoes includes the area along and north of I-80 from Kearney east to Lincoln and Omaha. Large hail, damaging wind in addition to heavy rain is all possible in the Moderate Risk area as well.

Attached, you will find the expected amount of rainfall from Sunday 7am through Monday 7am. From the map, you will see that much of eastern Nebraska continues to be the most at risk for heavy rainfall amounts. This heavy rain is expected to come from rain that is presently (as of 845am Sunday) ongoing across the state and from expected rainfall overnight.

Forecast for today: Rain this morning should come to an end by early afternoon. As the atmosphere heats up and recovers from morning thunderstorms, we will basically "refuel" the atmosphere for severe weather conditions for late this afternoon and through the evening hours. These thunderstorms will likely evolve into a large cluster of thunderstorms that will move east across the eastern half of the state overnight. This is likely to drop heavy rainfall and could create damaging wind gusts and large hail as well.

Forecast for Monday and Tuesday: There is a slight risk for severe thunderstorms over the entire state. A stalled frontal boundary in the region through Tuesday will continue to bring a chance of thunderstorms to the area. The pattern we are currently stuck in results in strong to severe storms in the late afternoon and evening hours, which eventually evolve into a cluster of storms that move slowly during the night and produce heavy rain.

Additional weather information can be found at www.noaa.gov and www.weather.com.

River Levels

Check out <http://water.weather.gov/ahps/> for river-related information.

Municipal Water Supplies

Water testing – Homeowners can order kits from the State Lab by calling (402) 471-3935 and request the Colilert test kit (\$10) which will test for Coliform and E.coli. The homeowner needs to collect the sample and return it to the state lab within 30 hours of sample collection. Local health departments are also a good resource. Remember, if your drinking water looks, tastes or smells odd, test it. Even if the water is okay the first time, it should be tested again to make sure bacteria hasn't permeated later.

Insurance

The Nebraska Department of Insurance has a flood insurance claims guide available on their website. Also, the Department has a Consumer Affairs Division available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., by calling 1-877-564-7323 with any insurance-related questions.

Farmers should report flood losses to the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA). www.fsa.usda.gov

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The Department of Health and Human Services' website has a comprehensive listing of flood resources at www.dhhs.ne.gov/SevereStorms.

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DISASTER INFORMATION FROM:

Nebraska Joint Information Center, 1800 N. 33rd St., Lincoln, 68503.

*For more information call: **(402) 471-7210 or (402) 471-7211.***

*Access information on flooding in Nebraska
on the DHHS Twitter and Facebook pages. Click links below:*

<http://twitter.com/NebraskaDHHS>

<http://www.facebook.com> search "Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services"

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